

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add a new paragraph [0000.1] at page 1 below the title and above the “BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION” heading:

[0000.1] This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/109,409, filed on March 27, 2002, now abandoned, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph:

[0019] As shown in Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 4, an inductor/transformer assembly 20 includes a ~~two-piece~~ three element structure comprising an outer box-like structure 15 overlying an inner structure 16 and a conductor structure 17 and having, e.g., outer corner edge chamfers 30, sidewall portions 32, 34, 36, 38, and a top wall portion 40 (hereinafter referred to as “the outer core”) and an inner rod-like structure 16 (hereinafter referred to as “the inner core”). The outer core 15 and the inner core 16 are both primarily composed of a suitable ferromagnetic material such as but not limited to MnZn, NiZn, MPP, or iron powder. The outer core 15 and the inner core 16 may be formed by any known process including but not limited to compression molding or sintering of powdered core material. The other element of assembly 20 is a conductor structure 17 comprising at least one-half turn around the inner core 16.

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] Obvious modifications of this invention include but are not limited to the conductor size, number of turns ~~on~~ of the conductor, wire type, magnetic material of either the inner or outer core, and the use of a base to accommodate different printed circuit board (PCB) footprints, for example. Also, while Figure 2 illustrated s single-layer coil 17 of relatively large diameter wire, a multi-layer coil of smaller diameter wire could readily be used. Further, while the surface-mount preparation of conductor ends as shown in Figure 4 may be employed with larger diameter conductor wires, other means can be employed to attach the inductor/transformer assembly to a printed circuit board, including providing a dielectric plastic base with metal terminals to which smaller diameter wires of the coil will be welded, crimped, or soldered to the terminals. Also, the approach disclosed in the commonly assigned, copending patent application, Application Serial No. [[_____]] 10/109,162, filed March 27, 2002, and entitled: “Self-Leaded Surface Mount Component Holder” (~~Docket No. CV002-US1, filed on the same date as the present application~~) may be used to facilitate

surface mounting of an inductor/transformer of the present invention. The disclosure of that application is hereby incorporated in its entirety herein by reference.